

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for retrieving information in a private database, the method comprising:

receiving at an e-mail server, an e-mail ~~via an e-mail, a request~~ from a wireless communication device comprising one or more search terms ~~to retrieve the information in the private database;~~

upon receiving the e-mail request, the e-mail server comparing an e-mail address identified with the wireless communication device against a list of e-mail addresses residing at the e-mail server; ~~and~~

when ~~if~~ the identified e-mail address is on the list, the e-mail server:

generates a query based on the one or more search terms received in the e-mail from the wireless device,

retrieving the information from the private database by executing the query, and;

~~sending, at the e-mail server, the information retrieved by the e-mail server to the~~ wireless communication device; and

when the identified e-mail address is not on the list, the e-mail server denying the request to retrieve the information ~~when the identified e-mail address is not on the list.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein receiving the e-mail from the wireless communication device includes receiving the e-mail from one of a wireless telephone, a wireless pager and a wireless personal digital assistant.

4-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein sending the information to the wireless communication device includes sending an outbound e-mail to the wireless communication device.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for retrieving information in a private database, the apparatus comprising:

an e-mail server accessing the private database, wherein the e-mail server is configured for communication with a wireless communication device via e-mail and includes:

an identification module at the e-mail server identifying an e-mail address of the wireless communication device; and

an authorization module at the e-mail server authorizing the e-mail server to retrieve the information and forward the information to the wireless communication device, wherein the authorization module is operative to compare the e-mail address identified with the wireless communication device against a list of e-mail addresses residing at the e-mail server, and ~~if~~ when the identified e-mail address is on the list, ~~then~~ the e-mail server generating a query based on one or more search terms received in the e-mail from the wireless device and retrieving the information from the private database by executing the query, and ~~if~~ when the identified e-mail address is not on the list, ~~then~~ denying the request to retrieve the information.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the e-mail server comprises a portion of an Intranet.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the e-mail server comprises a portion of an Extranet.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a set of instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to:

identify an e-mail address of a wireless communication device; and

an e-mail server to retrieve information in a private database and forward the information to the wireless communication device, wherein the processor is operative to compare the e-mail address identified with the wireless communication device against a list of e-mail addresses residing at the e-mail server, and ~~if~~ when the identified e-mail address is on the list, ~~then~~ generate

a query based on search terms from an e-mail received from the wireless device and retrieve the information from the private database by executing the query, and if when the identified e-mail address is not on the list, then denying the request to access the information.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the information comprises a list of documents which are listed by order of relevance.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the private database comprises confidential company information.

23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the information comprises a document that includes the one or more search terms.

24. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the information comprises a list of documents that include the one or more search terms.

25. (New) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the private database comprises confidential company information.

26. (New) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the information comprises a document that includes the one or more search terms.

27. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein the private database comprises confidential company information.

28. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein the information comprises a document that includes the one or more search terms.

29. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein the information comprises a list of documents that include the one or more search terms.